

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 21 and 23 - 26 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,507,381 (Katsuya et al) and U.S. Pat. No. 5,317,434 (Ohara). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 10 has been amended to call for the terminals to be arranged in the sealant region and connected through a conductive particle included in the sealant. Claim 10 has also been amended to call for the first and second alignment layer to be formed from the inner region to the sealant region, wherein the first and second alignment layers partially overlap the sealant region where the sealant is formed, along a side of the sealant provided with the terminals. Lastly, claim 10 has been amended to call for the second alignment layer to cross over the sealant region to an outer side of the sealant, along a side of the sealant other than the side provided with the terminals.

Neither the admitted prior art, Katsuya, Ohara, nor any combination thereof teaches such a configuration. That is, neither the admitted prior art, Katsuya, Ohara nor any combination thereof teaches, suggests, or provides motivation to utilize a configuration where the terminals are arranged in the sealant region and connected through a conductive particle included in the sealant, where the first and second alignment layers are formed from the inner region to the sealant region to partially

overlap the sealant region, and where the second alignment layer crosses over the sealant region to an outer side of the sealant, along a side of the sealant other than the side provided with the terminals. According to the claimed configuration, two alignment layers opposite to each other partially overlap the sealant region along a side of the sealant provided with the terminals. In this manner, the terminals formed on the pair of substrates can be connected to each other by the particles included in the sealant because of the non-overlapping portion between the sealant and the two alignment layers. Since none of the cited references teach or suggest such a configuration, the claimed invention would not have been obvious.

Claims 1, 17, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) U.S. Pat. No. 6,507,381 (Katsuya et al) and U.S. Pat. No. 5,317,434 (Ohara) as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,818,625 (Forgette et al).

Claims 1, 17, 23, and 24 have been amended in the same fashion as claim 10, addressed above. More particularly, claims 1, 17, 23, and 24 have been amended to call for the terminals to be arranged in the sealant region and connected through a conductive particle included in the sealant; for the first and second alignment layer to be formed from the inner region to the sealant region, wherein the first and second alignment layers partially overlap the sealant region where the sealant is formed, along a side of the sealant provided with the terminals; and for the second alignment layer to cross over the sealant region to an outer side of the sealant, along a side of the sealant other than the side provided with the terminals.

Neither the admitted prior art, Katsuya, Ohara, Forgette nor any combination thereof teaches or suggests such a configuration. As stated above, the claimed configuration provides for two alignment layers opposite to each other that partially overlap the sealant region along a side of the sealant provided with the terminals. In this manner, the terminals formed on the pair of substrates can be connected to each other by the particles included in the sealant because of the non-overlapping portion between the sealant and the two alignment layers. Since none of the cited references teach or suggest such a configuration, the claimed invention would not have been obvious.

Claims 2 – 9, 11 – 16, 18 – 21 and 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA, Katsuya, Ohara and Forgette as applied to claims 1, 10, 17, 23 and 24 above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,150,239 (Watanabe et al.).

Claims 2-9, 11-16, 18-21, and 25-26 are dependent on independent base claims 1, 10, 17, 23, and 24, addressed above. These claims are not obvious for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

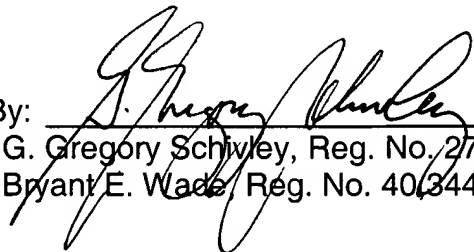
believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____

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By: _____


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